

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-12, 13-26, 27-35, 36-44, 45-50, 53-55, and 67 are cancelled herein.

In the Specification:

In order to better indicate the subject matter of the amended claims, an amended Title is submitted.

In the Claims:

Rejections Under 35 USC 112

Claim 62 stands rejected due to lack of antecedent basis for the limitation "electric motor." Claim 62 is revised to delete the word "electric." The limitation "motor" is found in independent claim 51.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 66 and 67. Accordingly, independent claim 51 is amended herein to incorporate the limitations of claim 67 and intervening claims 53 and 54. Claims 67, 53 and 54 are cancelled. Claim 55 is also cancelled as redundant to amended claim 51.

New Claims

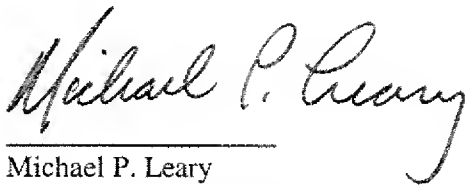
New claim set 68-74 and independent claim 75 are submitted for consideration.

Both independent claims 68 and 75 require that the shroud include an interior surface, and an arrangement of integral internal support members projecting from the interior surface, and the motor, air tank and air compressor are supported within the shroud on the internal support members.

None of the references of record disclose this structure. In US 5,030,067 to Ushiota, the tank 46, compressor 42, and apparently the motor (not shown) are joined together

by joining part 48 into a rigid air compressor assembly 40 including legs 64. Ushiota '067 col. 3 lines 10-15. The Ushiota air compressor assembly 40 is supported on legs 64. Id. at lines 16-26. Indeed, various alternative structures for those legs are the focus of the Figs. 9-12 embodiments of Ushiota '067. Id. col. 4 line 62 to col. 7 line 15. The cited embodiment of Ushiota '067 Fig. 8 does provide a shroud, but the tank, compressor, and motor remain supported by the legs 86/88 projecting through the shroud. Similarly, in US 6,991,436 to Beckman the shroud, compressor and motor are mounted to a platform 38 attached to the top of the air tank 28, which is not within the shroud, and the motor and compressor are not supported by structures within the shroud. Beckman '436 col. 4 lines 55-57.

Respectfully submitted



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